

News from Rep. Stephanie Herseth
For Immediate Release
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HOUSE PASSES WIND CAVE EXPANSION LEGISLATION

Herseth Works In Resources Committee To Move Bill

September 13, 2005, Washington, D.C. - The House of Representatives today passed Rep. Stephanie Herseth's bill to authorize expansion of Wind Cave National Park. The Senate has previously passed identical language, sponsored by Sen. Tim Johnson. The bill, which authorizes expansion but does not appropriate funds for purchase, is expected to be signed into law in coming days.

Rep. Herseth said, "Since arriving in Congress, I have been working to convince my colleagues on the Resources Committee that the property in question is a national treasure and a natural extension of the Park. I am pleased that we have been successful in making that argument and taking this step towards preserving this pristine land for generations to come."

Two weeks ago, Rep. Herseth hosted Representative Greg Walden (R-OR) for a tour of Wind Cave National Park and the adjoining property considered for expansion. "I was fortunate enough to be able to visit the Wind Cave National Park with Representative Herseth and witness its unique beauty firsthand. I applaud the work the Representative has done on this issue, which is so important to South Dakota, and I look forward to working with her in the future," said Rep. Walden, who is Chairman of the Resources Subcommittee on Forests and Forestry.

Herseth added, "I am grateful for the support of Chairman Walden, who believes, as I do, that this is an appropriate way to expand the Park and ensure that the additional acres are preserved as they have been for centuries."

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Congresswoman Stephanie Herseth serves South Dakota in the U.S. House of Representatives. She is a member of the Blue Dog Coalition, a group of moderate Democrats committed to fiscal discipline and strong national security, and is co-chair of the Rural Working Group, which is dedicated to raising the profile of issues important to rural America. She also serves on three committees vital to South Dakota's interests: Agriculture, Veterans' Affairs and Resources.